



Volume 1, Number 10
August, 2000

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Instructional Technology Staff

573/751-8247

Deborah S. Sutton, Director
dsutton@mail.dese.state.mo.us
Kathy Parris, Supervisor
kparris@mail.dese.state.mo.us
Claranne Vogel, Supervisor
cvogel@mail.dese.state.mo.us
Lisa Walters, Library Media and Technology
Consultant
lwalters@mail.dese.state.mo.us
Rosalyn Wieberg, Supervisor
rwieberg@mail.dese.state.mo.us
Kelly Kempker, Administrative Assistant
kkempker@mail.dese.state.mo.us

In This Issue

- Instructional Technology Update
- Technology Planning Tip of the Month
- Teacher Technology Standards
- Schools Interoperability Framework
- Factoids
- eMINTS Conference Update
- TestU Offers Free SAT Prep Course
- Copyright Question of the Month
- Learning With Technology
- Mark Your Calendar
- Upcoming 2000 Conference
- Internet Sites of Interest
- From the Mailbag

• Instructional Technology Update

Technology Task Forces

The Instructional Technology section is convening task forces to 1) help districts develop effective planning and implementation efforts, 2) identify technology professional development needs and activities, and 3) establish a Missouri educational technology association. Nearly 100 Missouri educators from across the state have volunteered to serve on these task forces. Stay tuned to *Newsline* for related events and outcomes.

Technology Planning

When district technology plans were evaluated in April, several received exemplary scores by readers. The districts below have agreed to post their technology plans on the web. Other exemplary plans will be shared as they become available.

Central R-III	http://www.central-ph.k12.mo.us
Gideon 37	http://gideon.k12.mo.us/class/tech.htm
Liberty 5	http://liberty.k12.mo.us/erc/tech/index.html
Monett R-I	http://hs1.monett.k12.mo.us
Poplar Bluff R-I	http://www.pb.k12.mo.us/newpage11.htm
<u>E-Rate Update</u>	

As of Thursday, July 27, 2000, the Schools and Libraries Division of the Universal Service Administrative Company released its 16th wave of funding commitment decision letters for Year 3, bringing the total to-date to over \$1.3 billion in more than 23,000 letters. Wave 16 funds internal connections requests to applicants qualifying for a discount rate of 83% and above (the first time to go under 85%). For details on funding commitments made thus far for Year 3, visit www.sl.universalservice.org/funding/y3/default.asp

2000 Educational Technology Conference

Registration materials will be distributed in mid-August for the Educational Technology Conference: Connecting Technology to Curriculum, to be held October 8-10 at Marriott's Tan-Tar-A. Online registration will be available which should facilitate signing up for desired break-out sessions. For general information about the conference, visit the web site at <http://www.more.net/events/metc2000>

TLCF Grant Program

TLCF grant applications will be accepted during the application window of September 1-15. Applicants / grant writers can request technical assistance from IT staff by calling 573/751-8247 to make an appointment.

Approximately 40 educators will meet September 28 in Columbia at the MOREnet Office for training in how to evaluate the TLCF grant applications. A panel of five readers will review each grant. Readers will access and score grant applications online; therefore, prospective readers must have internet access, current internet browser software, and be able to read documents saved as Word 6 for windows. Email Kathy Parris kparris@mail.dese.state.mo.us if you are interested in being a reader. Be sure to provide the following information in your email message: name, position, district name, district address, work telephone number, fax number, and email address.

DESE Names New Director of Curriculum and Technology Integration

Effective August 1, Dr. Wesley Bird will become the Director of Curriculum and Technology Integration for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Wesley will work with the other curriculum consultants and Instructional Technology to assist school districts in integrating technology across the curriculum. Wesley brings a strong background in curriculum and technology to this new position. Dr. Bird joined the Department in August 1996, and has guided the development of the math MAP assessment. He will continue his work as math curriculum consultant.

◆ **Teacher Technology Standards** <http://cnets.iste.org/index.html>

The National Educational Technology Standards for Teachers (NETS) were released at the National Educational Computing Conference (NECC) in June. Published by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) and supported by PT3 funding, the standards reflect national consensus on what teachers should know about and be able to do with technology, in developing curricula, increasing professional knowledge, and assessing students. The NETS project also provides recommendations for colleges to prepare teachers to use technology effectively in their classrooms.

◆ **Schools Interoperability Framework** <http://www.sifinfo.org>

The Schools Interoperability Framework (SIF) is an industry initiative to develop an open specification to ensure that K-12 instructional and administrative software applications work together more effectively. Over 80 technology companies and software vendors have agreed to incorporate the new specification into their products. This should allow schools to link together the separate programs that run various functions, such as student records, library circulation and check out, transportation, etc. A standard set of specifications used by all education software companies would ensure that data is entered only once in one application and automatically propagated to other applications. Also, school staff could create powerful reports by being able to access data from different applications. The v1.0 SIF Implementation Standard, released at the National Educational Computing Conference (NECC) in June, can be downloaded from the SIF web site.

◆ **Factoids**

Corporate data is doubling every 6 to 8 months <civic.com Newsletter, July 2000>

A new study by the National Education Association says it will take about \$322 billion to repair and modernize public schools -- \$268 billion for infrastructure and \$54 billion for education technologies. <NSBA Technology Leadership News, July 2000>

Teachers with 32 hours of training in using technology in the classroom are more likely to assign problem-solving tasks using those tools than their colleagues with less or no training. (National Center for Education Statistics) <NSBA Technology Leadership News, July 2000>

◆ **eMINTS Conference Update**

- Submitted by Monica M. Beglau, MOREnet

The second "wave" of eMINTS teachers, administrators and library/media specialists recently spent two intense and exciting days with DESE and MOREnet staff learning about their participation in the project – enhancing Missouri's Interactive Networked Teaching Strategies. On July 24 - 26, some 275 educators from 38 Missouri school districts participated in professional development sessions about using technology to enhance learning and tested out newest classroom technology that they will receive in their schools. The most essential elements of the program, sustained professional development and a collegial support system, were introduced to the participants as they had multiple opportunities to interact with DESE and MOREnet staff and experienced teachers who have been working with the project for the past several years.

Participating districts were selected through an application process to DESE and represent the wide range of settings in Missouri, from Parkway School district in St. Louis County to Dora R-III in Ozark County. The 38 districts will share about \$3.5 million in state and federal money, enough for each district to equip two third or fourth grade classrooms and train two teachers. Initial evaluation of student performance has shown highly positive trends when compared to the performance of students in classrooms not participating in the eMINTS project.

eMINTS Video Receives Award of Distinction

“eMINTS: Expanding for a Brighter Future” received a 2000 Videographers Award. The video may be viewed in RealPlayer format online at <http://emints.more.net/>.

◆ **TestU Offers Free SAT Prep Course**

- Submitted by Bill Giddings, MOREnet

Beginning August 1, TestU.com will offer a free SAT test prep course at their website <http://www.testU.com/>. This service will be completely customizable to individual student needs. The designers of the course have said that the service will remain free for the foreseeable future.

In order to customize the content of the course to individuals, students are directed to two samples test. The test prep course than uses the students' answers as a way of determining the areas they need the most help in. The service will also utilize the Internet's multimedia capability to create interesting and interactive tutorials.

The company hopes that this free service can help students who could not otherwise afford a test prep service. Because of the rising costs of test prep books and courses, many students are not able to properly prepare for these tests that are so important to their futures. Students with access to the Internet will have access to a professionally designed test prep course.

With higher scores on the SAT, students can expand their chances to be admitted to college or get performance based financial aid.

◆ **Copyright Question of the Month**

Q: May an educator (e.g., administrator, classroom teacher, substitute teacher, or student teacher) other district employee, volunteer, or others copy the same materials for more than one section of the same course?

A: YES. If an educator has multiple sections for the same course, copies may be made for all sections during one school term.

NOTE: If an educator wishes to use the same material for a different course, he or she must obtain permission from the copyright holder. Copying for the second course would violate the cumulative effect guideline. The educator may however, post the original article for any other classes to view.

◆ **Learning With Technology**

Featuring Bloomfield R-XIV

Bloomfield R-XIV School District

HEY, TEACH! GIVE ME MORE SPACE! is a TLCF grant targeted at kindergarten through twelfth grade students. The goal is to increase teachers' knowledge and use of technology efficiently and effectively.

By reaching this goal, we want to see an increase in student use of technology and also an increase in math and science skills.

A 21st Century Classroom set up with SmartBoard and projector is a component of the proposal. Activities are developed and still being developed to help students and teachers take electronic fieldtrips as they conduct research on important and interesting facts of space.

An exciting part of this project is that learning does not stop at 3. This past year our district implemented an afterschool program with federal funds called Home Alone. Computer lab and technology classes were offered to students. High school students learned how to create a webpage; other grade levels learned how to use PowerPoint and created presentations. Fifth grade students were taught email and given email accounts, and various other classes connected to the net to learn more about space. A portable planetarium was brought in to continue the learning.

A major component of Hey, Teach is professional development. With technology moving at a faster rate than ever, training is necessary. It must be continuous and constant. A three-day workshop was offered to all K-12th grade teachers at the close of this past school year. We set up a rotating schedule where teachers selected the classes they wanted to take and learned more about technology. PDC funds provided a lunch each day to continue the networking between teachers. What was even better, some of the teachers conducted the workshops using the SmartBoard and computers to help the new or more experienced teacher. Other shorter training workshops were held during the year as well and will continue this coming school year.

This coming school year other funding allowed us to hire a teacher to be in the space lab all day. This helps us train the teachers as they sit (as a student) in on the classes she provides. With a new computer lab connected to the web, and an extra teacher hired to be in that lab all day, we hope this year is even better than before.

◆ Mark Your Calendar

August

1	Publish Newslane on the web
3	Final ¼ Payment (State Technology and VIDEO Grants)
3-10	Instructional Technology Online Application Workshops

September

1	Publish Newslane on the web
1-15	Window for submitting TLCF Grants
6	First ½ payment (State Technology and VIDEO Grants)
6	Final ½ payment to TLCF Grants
15	Deadline (Technology Acquisition Grants and VIDEO Grants)
28	TLCF Grant Reader Training (At MOREnet)

◆ Upcoming 2000 Conferences

July 31 - Aug. 1	Cooperative Conference for School Administrators Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO
August 2-4	Conference on Distance Teaching and Learning Madison, WI
August 10-11	School Technology Leadership Conference Sheraton San Diego Harbor Hotel & Marina, San Diego, California
August 17-19	School Tech Chicago Exposition & Conference Chicago Hilton & Towers Chicago, IL
September 14-15	Grants & Funding For School Technology Philadelphia, PA
October 2-4	eSchool Technology Conference & Exposition Hyatt Hotel, Orlando, FL
October 8-10	Missouri Educational Technology Conference; Connecting Technology to Curriculum Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO
October 25-28	Technology + Learning Conference National School Boards Association Denver, CO
October 30-31	Setting the Technology Agenda for America's Schools (Superintendents' Technology Summit) Westin Mission Hills Resort, Palm Springs, CA
November 2-5	NMSA Annual Conference & Exhibit St. Louis, MO
November 9-10	MNEA Fall Conference Kansas City, MO

◆ Internet Sites of Interest

Generation www.Y (U.S. Department of Education Technology Innovation Challenge Grant)
<http://genwhy.wednet.edu>

This website recently was awarded Curriculum Administrator magazine's Diamond award for the nation's most outstanding K-12 curriculum site. There you will find an archive of thousands of technology infused lesson plans all aligned to state academic standards that Generation www.Y students and their partner teachers have created. Also, at the website are evaluation results, annual reports, and other information about Gen www.Y

Webquests

<http://edweb.sdsu.edu/webquest/webquest.html>

Technology Assessment Resources

<http://wise.polyu.edu.hk/classroom/classroom/www.bham.wednet.edu/assess2.htm>

K-12 Practitioners' Data Sources

<http://nces.ed.gov/practitioners/>

A new federal web site is designed to make it easy for education practitioners, administrators, teachers, policymakers, librarians, and parents to tap in data bases. The site provides data sources

and statistical reports assembled by the National Center for Education Statistics and selected U.S. Department of Education K-12 resources.

State, Federal and Foundation/Corporate Funding

<http://www.schoolgrants.org>

This site provides links to state, federal, and foundation/corporate funding opportunities for K-12 educators, schools, and districts. It also has sample successful proposals, grant-writing tips and links to various grant-writing resources. There is a free electronic monthly newsletter and a Bring Home the Bacon listserv available.

BizLink

www.learningstation.com and click onto “BizLink”

BizLink is a funding model that allows businesses to directly fund educational technology initiatives for the K-12 school district of their choice. It is an on-line assessment and tutorial for over 64 soft skill applications that an HR department can subscribe to for the company employees and/or qualifying job candidates.

◆ From the Mailbag

News You Can Use

K-12 TechWatch is sent to you as a free news service providing exceptional school technology resources, special events, and management tools for professional educators.

<http://www.eschoolnews.org/stlc>

TechConnect Grants

The Electronics Industries Foundation offers TechConnect grants for 5th through 8th grade math and science programs, to encourage creative teaching by supporting technology in the classroom. Applicants must be from schools in underserved communities and are encouraged to partner with a technology-related business so that corporate resources can enhance the teacher’s project. Applications are accepted at any time, and awards are given in the spring and fall. For more information, visit <http://www.eia.org/eif>

SchoolGrants

SchoolGrants provides resources for children, teachers/educators, and K-12 schools. Our goal is to contribute to the common task of improving schools and programs for the children served by those schools. The “most good for the most kids” is our commitment and primary aim. You can share with the SchoolGrants community by sending contributions to contributions@schoolgrants.org.